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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): H. SASAKI, ET AL

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Submitted herewith is a copy of each of the publications identified on attached Patent Office form PTO/SB/08A.

Japanese KOKAI Publication No. 11-231222 and Japanese KOKAI Publication No. 2000-206415 are mentioned on pages 3-4 of the specification.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the publications submitted herewith and make them of record. It is further requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that the publications listed therein have been made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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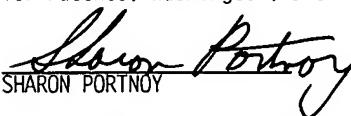
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